

(a) whether it is a fact that Rashtriya Kendriya Vidyalaya Adhyapak Sangh has threatened to launch an all India agitation by employees of Kendriya Vidyalayas in April, 1997 if their demands are not accepted;

(b) if so, the details of their demands; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Their demands inter-alia include Special Pay Board for Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan employees, redesignation of Post Graduate Teachers as lecturers, accomodation and C.G.H.S. facilities to all teachers, introduction of additional subjects at + 2 level, Trained Graduate Teacher Scale to Music Teachers, modification in the norms for sanction of staff.

These demands are considered by the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan in accordance with relevant rules and procedure.

Asia Europe Meeting

1511. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Mr. John Major, Prime Minister of U.K. while addressing the CII Partnership Summit in Calcutta during January last, gave the assurance that the U.K. will forcefully take up with the countries of Europe and Asia the issue of India's inclusion in the Asia-Europe Summit dialogue in future;

(b) if so, the efforts made by the British Prime Minister in this regard so far;

(c) whether India's hope of becoming member in the Asia Europe Meeting (ASEM) forum looks uncertain as Asia Europe Meeting officials feel that time is not ripe to admit new members in the 26 country grouping as reported in "The Financial Express", New Delhi dated February 4, 1997; and

(d) if so, the Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b) In his address to the CII Partnership Summit, Prime Minister Major said that Britain has been arguing forcefully with its partners in Europe and Asia for India's inclusion in ASEM and would continue to do so. It is understood that, at the meeting of ASEM Foreign Ministers in Singapore on February 14, the British Foreign Secretary was among those who argued for an expansion of ASEM's membership to include India.

(c) It is understood that no decision was taken at the ASEM Foreign Ministers' Meeting on expansion of the membership; the question is to be studied further by senior officials.

(d) The position of the Government of India, reiterated more than once to members of ASEM, is that it is illogical to have a meeting between Asia and Europe without the participation of India.

Performance of Coast Guard

1512. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT :
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether performance of coast guard organisation has been reviewed recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of fresh initiatives taken to upgrade/strengthen/modernise coast guard organisation to perform the challenging task;

(d) the details of fund required/spent by the organisation during the last three years and the funds approved for ongoing/new projects during the current year;

(e) the details of progress achieved on new projects; and

(f) the reason for delay in clearing the proposals of coast guard organisation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (c) The Coast Guard has been performing its statutory functions satisfactorily. However, necessary initiatives are taken from time to time to update, strengthen and modernise the Coast Guard Organisation. The Organisation is also being strengthened by inducting forces as are considered necessary.

(d) Position is as follows :

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Budget Estimates	Expenditure
1993-94	215.00	213.00
1994-95	230.00	229.00
1995-96	252.00	254.00
1996-97	253.97*	not yet available

*including Rs. 150 crores approved for ongoing/new projects.

(e) and (f) One Fast Patrol Vessel (EPV) is scheduled to be commissioned shortly, two more are due for delivery within the next fiscal year. Three Dorniers and three Chetak Helicopters have been commissioned. Three more Dorniers are expected before 31st March, 1997. For two rescue Helicopters, Letter of Intent has been placed on HAL and these are likely to be delivered during 1998. There is no undue delay in clearing of any Coast Guard proposals.

Ship Building in the Country

1513. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :